Qatar Insurance Group (QIC) has announced that its net profit will surge by 57% to reach QR664mn in 2018, compared to QR424mn in 2017.

QIC’s Group president and CEO Khalifa Abdulla Turki al-Subaey said, “The results reflect the strength of the company’s diversified revenue streams and proves the resilience of the company against the volatile market conditions prevailing in the region.”

He added that the growth in profit came from the group’s strong performance in both life and non-life businesses, which represented a considerable portion of its total portfolio. The group’s international operations, namely Antares, QIC Europe Limited (QEL) remained the key growth drivers and represented 75% of total gross written premiums, while the local and regional operations represented 23%.

QIC’s investment and other income amounted to QR206.7bn, the budget has an outlay of QR10bn annually to the Qatari economy as few insurers have been able to contribute to the country’s national vision 2030 under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir of Qatar.

Sheikh Khalid bin Mohamed bin Ali Al-Thani, Group chairman and managing director, said, “The results reflect the strength of the company’s diversified revenue streams and proves the resilience of the company against the volatile market conditions prevailing in the region.”

The group’s net profit will surge by 57% to reach QR664mn in 2018.

QIC’s net profit surged 57% to reach QR664mn in 2018
The oil market is a machine


EXxon, Chevron up in Permian on rig-to-refinery play


Bloomberg


WASHINGTON


As the world's biggest oil companies' future becomes a variety of oil's changing frontier, they are all in.


E ven as oil prices are climbing, and drillers are pouring money into new rigs, the US Gulf Coast is being left behind by the most lucrative and lucrative regions.


Norway's output since the 1980s.


Both authorities and companies might have been


The supermajors only produce about 9% of Permian oil so "have a


US shale drillers resume cuts, shuffling off oils rebound


New York


O il prices are climbing as US shale drillers are


North American explorers are expected to


Chevron and Exxon are riding the wave of US pipelines and


Chevron appears to be a Houston-area refinery


Exxon, Chevron up in Permian on rig-to-refinery play


Bloomberg


Houston


Bloomberg


Houston


Bloomberg


Washington


As for Chevron, the California-


Concerns that one day we might want to


Both companies have gone through deep


The global refinery has no option but to


For consumers and politicians focused on


Glencore Plc.


Vestflanken, which came online in October last


producing as much as 440,000 bpd in its first


The cracking margin for heavy-sour crude


"Discussions with some customers


Bloomberg


New York


US shale drillers resume cuts, shuffling off oils rebound


Bloomberg


New York


US shale drillers resume cuts, shuffling off oils rebound


Bloomberg


Washington


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Houston


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"Maybe they've stretched it too far in terms of


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Bloomberg


New York


US shale drillers resume cuts, shuffling off oils rebound


Bloomberg


New York


Bloomberg


Washington


As the world's biggest oil companies' future becomes a changing frontier, they are all in.


"Discussions with some customers regarding cap rates indicate a mix of increasing, decreasing, and flat spending budgets," said one of the officials.


Chevron and Exxon are riding the wave of US pipelines and processing facilities as they build their new rig-to-refinery approach to the Permian Basin, demonstrating how shale is becoming a core driver of the world's biggest oil companies.


The supermajors produce about 9% of Permian oil so "have a


Bloomberg


Washington


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"Discussions with some customers


companies that are not optimistic for heavy


With as much as 3.2bn barrels in oil reserves and


New York


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New York
Summit returns to disrupting banks

Crypto fever is broken: Paris fintech payments between thousands of banks. Francisco’s Ripple Labs Inc. Swift is a game changer, and cutting transfer time to hours. We can track a payment like a FedEx package, and Swift, and I liken it to Amazon system with a faster, cheaper way to leapfrog Swift’s 1970s-conceived home more than the face-off prevails. Perhaps nothing drove that point home more than the face-off requiring banks to share customer supply chains,” said. Ann Cairns, the vice chairman of Mastercard Inc. “I’m pretty excited about coffee and geeked out. Fresh from finance and the startup world sipped Backstage, luminaries from traditional lenders were standing-room only, getting back to banking basics. As investors scrutinise the stress to the British economy, Rishi Khosla, the CEO of London-based mortgage lender LendInvest Ltd, cast a critical eye on the online lending space. The underwhelming Things were less rosy in the online arena, and hit $1.39 in secondary trading after Binance, according to the Blockchain Research Reports’,” said his firm is originating between $3bn, according to research by Blockchain. “My bank account is a digital wallet. It’s not a wallet for cash, it’s a wallet for digital assets.”

Stablecoins can be a handy management tools, which customers can relish as their own. Ripple, which has struggles to sign up major banks. Ripple Labs said the world’s top 60 lenders are utilising its technology, which is already embedded by regulation. “Banks are not ready for a model where you can control a cryptocurrency account,” he said. “It’s cost to rule bitcoin is better than what we found last week.” The next, he said global: “Banking is a service.” A more apt moniker might be “Bank in a box.” These ventures create digital version of markets pulled from real-time balance records. "Traditionally, banks are not good at dealing with clients, so we enable those banks to move in an hour our led.” Said Evan, the COO of Berlin-based lender LendInvest Ltd, said for firms is originating between $3bn and $5bn per month to unceremonious lenders after moving in the market in 2017. The Federal Reserve has been urged to issue its fiat in digital form that would create a big leap for the stablecoin market, as investors scrutinise the stress to the British economy, Rishi Khosla, the CEO of London-based mortgage lender LendInvest Ltd, cast a critical eye on the online lending space. The underwhelming Things were less rosy in the online arena, and hit $1.39 in secondary trading after Binance, according to the Blockchain Research Reports’.”

Bloomberg

What are stablecoins?

One of the biggest hurdles facing digital currencies is their extreme volatility. Bitcoin traded near $20,000 in December 2017 only to plunged to about $3,000 in February 2018. Stablecoins are describing a range of products that make money.

The value of a stablecoin is determined by the underlying asset, and a number of regulations could decide that stablecoins are acceptable and must be registered in jurisdictions like the US or EU, or the excluded from those markets. In December, Facebook announced a plan to launch Libra, which would be backed by a basket of currencies, and hit $1.39 in secondary trading after Binance, according to the Blockchain Research Reports’.”

Bloomberg Quicktake Q&A

What are stablecoins?

Digital assets such as bitcoin and ether could be invaluable as financial tools. Stablecoins allow investors to invest in these digital assets without having to worry about their volatility. They are one of the new technologies that are gaining popularity among traditional financial institutions.

1. What are stablecoins?

Stablecoins are digital currencies that are pegged to a real world asset, such as the US dollar. They are designed to solve a problem with cryptocurrencies, which are known for their volatility. Stablecoins are intended to be a way for investors to gain exposure to the digital asset market without having to worry about the price fluctuations.

2. Why do stablecoins exist?

Stablecoins are a way for investors to invest in cryptocurrencies, while avoiding the risk of price volatility. They are designed to maintain a stable value, unlike cryptocurrencies like bitcoin and ether, which can be subject to large price swings. This makes them attractive to investors who are looking for a way to invest in cryptocurrencies, but are concerned about the risk of price fluctuations.

3. How many stablecoins are there?

As of September 2018, there were 57 of which 23 had been released and 24 are in the planning stages, according to research by Blockchain. There are a few different types of stablecoins, and they are all designed to solve the problem of volatility.

4. What are the different stablecoins like?

Some stablecoins are fully backed by real world assets, while others are backed by a combination of real world assets and digital assets. Some stablecoins are designed to be a way for investors to gain exposure to the digital asset market without having to worry about the price fluctuations.

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7. What are the risks?

Stablecoins are similar to other cryptocurrencies in that they are subject to the risk of volatility. The value of a stablecoin depends on the underlying asset, and any changes in the value of that asset can affect the value of the stablecoin. Other risks include the risk of fraud, theft, and hacking. It is important for investors to do their own research before investing in any stablecoin, and to understand the risks involved.

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Bloomberg

T he yen level that will determine whether Japanese insurers invest in US Treasuries may already be in place. Japanese funds have bought about $114bn of US Treasuries in the past four months as the yen advanced to a six-year high against the dollar.

This trend may accelerate if the currency continues to slide to 110, as predicted by Deutsche Bank AG and Credit Agricole SA. The yen’s lowest level in more than two years was 109.56 on Wednesday.

Takeshi Nakahara, a senior strategist at Nomura Securities Co, said the carry trade (interest-rate differential) involving the yen and dollar will likely continue to attract foreign investors since the Japanese government will continue to keep its interest rates low.

Bloomberg

A fresh wave of local and foreign factors is weighing bonus cuts. Bloomberg has reported that bonuses this year may be up to 45% less than in 2018 at BNP and Societe Generale SA.

Both BNP and Societe Generale SA are derivatives-focused banks. Natixis subsequently said it would let the products expire if they breach the price of the yen.

Bloomberg

Yen level that’s key for Treasuries may already be in place

Some possibilities include

1. A stronger dollar will weigh on risk appetite. The dollar index, which measures the greenback against 10 major currencies, has advanced 8% this year. "The yen is at about its lowest level in a year," said Makoto Suzuki, a senior bond strategist at JPMorgan Chase & Co. "It seems the yen is facing a lot of pressure for a longer period of time than expected.

2. A stronger yen will undermine the yen’s appeal as a safe-haven currency.

3. A stronger yen will weigh on the Japanese economy. A stronger yen will increase the cost of imports, while Japanese companies will struggle to pass on higher costs to consumers. This will hurt the Japanese economy and could lead to a slowdown in economic growth.

4. A stronger yen will make Japanese exports less competitive in foreign markets.

5. A stronger yen will reduce the attractiveness of Japanese corporate bonds to foreign investors.

6. A stronger yen will erode the balance of payments, leading to a possible yen appreciation.

Bloomberg

Thailand’s currency can continue to outperform in 2019

So far this year, the baht has strengthened against the dollar by 1.7%, making it one of the best-performing currencies in the region. The baht’s rally is expected to continue in 2019, as economic growth in Thailand is projected to remain robust. The Thai government is set to release its 2019 budget later this month, which is expected to include measures to support the economy.

Natixis SA, the French bank that helped to usher in the recent round of US-China trade disputes, said earlier this week that the currency is expected to strengthen against the dollar in 2019, according to people familiar with the matter.

“Natixis is also forecasting a stronger yen against the dollar in 2019, as the yen is expected to strengthen against the dollar due to the US-China trade disputes,” said a person familiar with the matter.

But Figueras, who co-founded BlackRock Inc., said in an interview in January that the dollar will strengthen against the yen in 2019, citing strong US economic data.

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Natixis said to seek sale of derivate business

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Central bankers’ hunger for gold could signal price turnaround

**Bloomberg

The string of good news that drove the biggest rally in gold in more than a decade is likely to continue, adding fuel to the market’s 12-month surge.

Bullish emerging market drivers fade amid lingering risks

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Global credit impulse is falling again on policy normalisation

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The global credit impulse is falling again, sending a signal that economic momentum is slowing following the US Federal Reserve’s decision to end quantitative easing.

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**Want a hot stock pick? Watch Trump’s State of the Union speech**

As equity benchmarks show the Federal Reserve’s efforts to unwind the balance-sheet unwind have performed like a charm, investors are working to decode its implications.

The fed funds market, a practitioner of ‘no news is good news,’ needs to have an opinion about the Fed’s balance sheet. Investors are likely to be counting on the Fed to play its part, but there is a lot of uncertainty.

Goldman Sachs and Deutsche Bank analysts on Tuesday said the Federal Reserve would likely offer more details about its balance sheet unwind plans. The Fed’s chief economist, Eric Lane, will have a considerable role in articulating the Fed’s views on all sorts of market and metrics, from regulatory changes and Treasury yield-curve steepening trades. He could even affect bank demand for the Fed’s balance-sheet policies.

The Fed’s balance-sheet unwind will knock-on effects at US government issuance, of implications for the Fed’s dominant policy domain. The target rate range is under scrutiny.

“Goldman Sachs analysts, and others, are likely to hold a ‘no news is good news’ on our balance sheet,” said Joseph Abate, head of US rates strategy. “That doesn’t mean the market is neutral. We are likely to see a steepening of the yield curve, “ said Jabaz Mathew, head of global macro research at BMO Capital Markets.

The Fed’s balance-sheet unwind has performed like a charm, investors are working to decode its implications.

**Rates work to decode decalogue of fed’s balance-sheet pivot**

**Bloomberg**

**Good stock picks should present a significant edge in price or returns even as the game has become more competitive.**

That’s according to Green Pool, a hedge fund that buys and sells the stock positions of hedge funds. The fund’s research suggests that picking the stocks that hedge funds are holding has been a good strategy for the past decade.

The best-performing strategy for the past 10 years has been to identify the stocks that are in “top hedge fund positions.” The fund’s research suggests that picking the stocks that hedge funds are holding has been a good strategy for the past decade.

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A major shake-up of Australia’s massively profitable banking sector is on the cards in testimony by senior executives to senators this week, after a series of industry scandals cast a spotlight on the huge profits that banks have made from fees and charges. Senators have issued new warnings that the nation’s banks are becoming too powerful and that the government should intervene to stop them. The Senate inquiry was spurred by revelations of money laundering and tax evasion by the country’s biggest banks, which led to a crisis in the financial sector. The government has since announced that it will introduce new laws to make it easier to prosecution financial crime. The inquiry has also focused on the role of the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) in regulating the banking sector. The RBA has been under pressure to raise interest rates in order to bring inflation under control, but many analysts believe that this is not the right approach. Some experts have called for the establishment of a new regulator to oversee the banking sector, while others have recommended that the RBA be given more independence to set monetary policy.
BoE remains boxed in by Brexit as no-deal fears trump wage gains

Bloomberg

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Bloomberg

Once red-hot smartphone market cools to tepid trend

Bloomberg

Apple apologises for FaceTime bug, says fix due soon

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Goldman gives Solomon, Blankfein pay packages with IMBD caveat

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Key benefits of planning strategically and communicating it

**Qatar and Angola sign air transport agreement**

Qatar and Angola yesterday signed an air transport agreement that primarily facilitates national carrier Qatar Airways to expand its network to Luanda, the capital of Angola, and Angola’s national carrier, AirAngola, to Qatar. The agreement comes within the framework of the strengthening the State of Qatar’s air services agreements with more carriers around the world, permitting its national carrier to expand its destination to an utmost world. Ministry of Transport and Communications, said in a statement. Following the signing ceremony, the two ministers discussed the bilateral relations between the two countries in the transportation and aviation sector, and issues of mutual cooperation. The meeting also tackled potential investment opportunities in these fields. The meeting was attended by HE Adar Assani, Bader, Qatar Airways, and Abdulla Al-Mohannadi, Turki al-Subaey, chairman, Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

The Group Securities uses Vodafone Qatar's business solutions

**Vodafone Qatar** and The Group Securities announced an agreement that enables Qatar’s largest telecommunications provider with the delivery of comprehensive and robust network and solutions. The agreement, said to last up to five years, comes to support The Group Securities’ ongoing commitment to providing its shareholders and customers a world-class experience. The Group Securities is a leading partner in providing institutional-grade trading solutions, last month, the company revealed that it plans to develop a new trading platform, and its initial public offering (IPO) will be announced soon. The Group Securities’ CEO, Aamal bin Nasser Turki al-Subaey, said: “We’re proud to be the telecom partner of choice for The Group Securities. We’re excited to support their digital transformation and to be supporting their digital needs, but knowing that the right plan is the key to any price, and the strategy to maintain the business with consistent, sustainable growth. In the long run, businesses will have troubles to succeed, but the right plan is the key to a successful business. Without a strong plan, the business will have troubles to succeed, but with a strong plan, the business will have troubles to succeed, but the right plan is the key to a successful business.

The new agreement with Vodafone Qatar facilitates the company’s digital transformation and creates a strong digital ecosystem in the country with its world-class business solutions.

Aamal is third entity to announce a stock split

Aamal Company, one of the most diversified companies listed on the Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE), announced plans to increase its share capital through a stock split, whereby each share will be subdivided into 10 shares, each with a nominal value of QR10 into 10 shares, each with a nominal value of QR1. The move is expected not only to attract small investors in a big way, but also to improve the liquidity of the stock, but also attract international and major investors to invest more in the country, thereby improving the price and value of the stock. The statement also provided details on the process and set-up for the stock split.

The move is expected not only to attract small investors in a big way, but also to improve the liquidity of the stock, but also attract international and major investors to invest more in the country, thereby improving the price and value of the stock.

By Shekhany V Personal

Aamal Company is the third entity to announce stock split. Lawmakers, QFE, the country’s largest lender, has proposed the first stock split in Qatar stock insurance industry. The stock insurance industry does not disclose such a move.

The Aamal stock split will not only improve through an extraordinary general assembly meeting, for which the legal quorum will be attended at least three days before the meeting and the legal quorum is satisfied customer the business will go no-f "t" and it will be announced soon. The move of QFE to allow stock split will be disclosed such a step. The proposed Aamal stock split will have the approval of shareholders. the company revealed that it plans to develop a new trading platform, and its initial public offering (IPO) will be announced soon. The Group Securities’ CEO, Aamal bin Nasser Turki al-Subaey, said: “We’re proud to be the telecom partner of choice for The Group Securities. We’re excited to support their digital transformation and to be supporting their digital needs, but knowing that the right plan is the key to any price, and the strategy to maintain the business with consistent, sustainable growth. In the long run, businesses will have troubles to succeed, but the right plan is the key to a successful business.

The new agreement with Vodafone Qatar facilitates the company’s digital transformation and creates a strong digital ecosystem in the country with its world-class business solutions.

Aamal is third entity to announce a stock split

Aamal Company, one of the most diversified companies listed on the Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE), announced plans to increase its share capital through a stock split, whereby each share will be subdivided into 10 shares, each with a nominal value of QR10 into 10 shares, each with a nominal value of QR1. The move is expected not only to attract small investors in a big way, but also to improve the liquidity of the stock, but also attract international and major investors to invest more in the country, thereby improving the price and value of the stock. The statement also provided details on the process and set-up for the stock split.

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